

Bringing the County Closer to You!

Marc Elrich, County Executive Andrew Kleine, Chief Administrator Officer Catherine Matthews, Director Linda Moore, UCAB Chair

February 27, 2020

UCAB Land Use Committee Meeting Monday, March 2 7:00pm Kramer Upcounty Regional Services Center 12900 Middlebrook Road, Germantown

Discussion: "ZTA 20-01, Solar Collection Systems- AR Zone Standards"Guest: Tommy Heyboer, Deputy Chief of Staff, Councilmember Riemer's Office

Here are links to the:

press release https://www2.montgomerycountymd.gov/mcgportalapps/Press_Detail.aspx?Item_ID=23795&Dept=1

fact sheet https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/COUNCIL/Resources/Files/zta/Ag Reserve Solar Fact Sheet.pdf

the proposed ZTA https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/COUNCIL/Resources/Files/zta/2020/ZTA%2020-01.pdf

All board and committee meetings are open to the public!

Sign language interpreter services will be provided only upon request with notice as far in advance as possible, but no less than 72 hours prior to the event. If these or other services or aids are needed to participate in this activity, please call 240-777-8040 or email a request to catherine.matthews@montgomerycountymd.gov.



Montgomery Serves Awards Nominations Now Open!

Just one more day remains to nominate exceptional volunteers for the 2020 <u>Montgomery Serves Awards</u>, our county's highest honor for volunteerism. These annual awards recognize individuals, businesses, and groups that have demonstrated remarkable commitment to direct volunteer service in our community.

Nomination deadline: Friday, February 28 at 5:00pm

Community Meeting on the County's State of Education

Wednesday, March 4 6:30pm -8:30pm Northwood High School, Cafeteria 919 University Blvd, Silver Spring

The meeting will be hosted by Craig Rice, chair of the Montgomery County Council's Education and Culture Committee; Dr. Jack Smith, superintendent of Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS); Dr. DeRionne Pollard, president of Montgomery College (college), and Dr. Stewart Edelstein, executive director of The Universities at Shady Grove (USG).

With an emphasis on the educational continuum and intentional collaboration among county government, MCPS, Montgomery College and USG, the four presenters will share state and county initiatives to support a robust education system. The evening will highlight educational programs and experiential opportunities that place our students onto pathways that lead to job readiness and career attainment. Speakers will discuss how their educational partnerships are focused on preparing all students with the lifelong learning skills needed for the jobs of the future.

The meeting also will provide information on current state and county funding proposals as part of the fiscal year 2021 budget process. The Council will adopt the County budget in May, which will go into effect on July 1.

There will be a question and answer session following the speakers' presentations. For further information about the community meetings, contact Councilmember Rice's office at 240-777-7955 or email him at: Councilmember.Rice@montgomerycountymd.gov.

Council's Transportation and Environment Committee hold Metro Town Hall meeting

Monday, March 2 7:00pm

Montgomery County Planning Commission Building

8787 Spring Street, Silver Spring

The town hall will focus on the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority's (WMATA) proposed operating budget for fiscal year 2021. For more information, click <u>here.</u>



Montgomery County Council confirms Executive's Selection of Tiffany Ward as County's Chief Equity Officer Read more here.

2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) Information

The 2019 Novel Coronavirus (2019-nCoV) Outbreak is a constantly evolving situation; and Montgomery County's Department of Health and Human Services, working with the Maryland Department of Health, will provide updates as they become available.

The updates can be found on a County-developed informational webpage by clicking here.

Montgomery Drivers Could Be Affected in Temporary Road Closures Over the Next Two Weeks on ICC for MDTA Tolling System Upgrades

Montgomery County drivers who use the Intercounty Connector (ICC/MD 200) could be affected by temporary road closures over the next two weeks as the Maryland Transportation Authority (MDTA) implements its next generation electronic tolling systems. Part of those upgrades will include replacing existing tolling hardware and software at all toll facilities. Although the locations will change, it is expected that the work will lead to temporary lane closures through April.

Beginning 9 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 21, and continuing until 5 a.m. on Monday, Feb. 24, westbound ICC/MD 200 traffic was detoured at Layhill Road (MD 182). The detour route directed motorists north on Layhill Road to west on Norbeck Road and north on Georgia Avenue (MD 97) back to westbound ICC/MD 200.

Beginning 9 a.m. on Monday, Feb. 24, and continuing until 5 a.m. on Thursday, Feb. 27, westbound traffic on the ICC/MD 200 was detoured at US 1. The detour route directed motorists west on Ritz Way to north on Konterra Drive, then south on I-95 collector-distributor lanes to westbound ICC/MD 200.

Beginning 9 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 28, and continuing until 5 a.m. on Monday, March 2, westbound ICC/MD 200 traffic will be detoured at I-95. The detour route will direct motorists south on I-95 to west on MD 212 (Exit 29B), to right on Cherry Hill Road and north on Columbia Pike (US 29) back to westbound ICC/MD 200.

The remaining schedule features eastbound and westbound gantry upgrades between New Hampshire Avenue (MD 650) and US 29 (Columbia Pike), eastbound gantry upgrades between Georgia Avenue (MD 97) and Layhill Road (MD 182), work between Columbia Pike (US 29) and I-95, and between I-95 and US 1, during weekends and off-peak periods in March/early April. MDTA will issue additional traffic advisories as those detour plans are finalized. Those traveling between I-370 and I-95/US 1 may consider taking I-495 when detours are in effect. The temporary detours are needed due to the amount of equipment and work crews involved and to help ensure the safety of workers and motorists.

MDTA plans to have crews working on one gantry in each direction of the ICC per weekend. MDTA will issue additional traffic advisories as work progresses and schedules are finalized. Work will be scheduled during off-peak hours, including weekends and overnight.

To sign up for email and text alerts or view real-time traffic camera images on MDTA roadways, visit mdta.maryland.gov. Real-time updates on major incidents can be followed on Twitter at twitter.com/TheMDTA.

Council enacts bill to increase economic opportunities for Montgomery County's local small businesses

Bill 39-19 expands the percentage of procurement dollars local small businesses can receive from the County and allows nonprofit organizations to participate in County's Local Small Business Reserve Program

Read more <u>here</u>.

County bill #6-20 introduced to ban balloon releases

This is a bill that bans the outdoor release of helium-filled latex and mylar balloons, which can travel hundreds of miles before falling to earth, where they can be ingested and kill sea turtles, marine birds and land animals. Many animals, including sea turtles, mistake burst and deflated balloons for prey and ingest them. The balloons can block their intestinal tract, resulting in starvation and death. Sometimes, animals become entangled in the ribbons attached to the balloons, incapacitating them and leading to death.

Bill 6-20 authorizes civil penalties of \$500 for first offenses and \$750 for subsequent offenses. Read more here.



Council Honors Brigadier General Charles E. McGee, Tuskegee Airman

This week Councilmember Will Jawando presented a proclamation honoring Brigadier General Charles E. McGee, who is the oldest living member of the 332nd Fighter Group of the famed Tuskegee Airmen, fondly nicknamed the "Red Tails". Brigadier General McGee became a command pilot and accumulated more than 6,300 hours flying fighter aircraft combat tours in three major military conflicts: Italy during World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War. He is a beloved resident of Montgomery County and recently celebrated his 100th birthday. Watch the proclamation

Montgomery County Council to Host Senior Town Hall Meeting at Leisure World Wednesday, March 11 9:00am Leisure World Club House 2 – Auditorium 3300 N. Leisure World Blvd., Silver Spring (Doors open at 8:00am)

Attendees not residing in Leisure World must stop at the security gate before proceeding to the Town Hall Meeting.

The Montgomery County Council will host a Senior Town Hall Meeting to hear the thoughts and concerns of many of our older adults. The meeting, focused on senior residents, will enable individuals to voice opinions on specific issues and will allow them to ask questions of the Councilmembers in an organized, but informal, setting.

Language interpretation assistance is available upon request with at least three working days' notice by calling 240-777-7931.

For additional information, contact Juan Jovel at Juan.Jovel@montgomerycountymd.gov or call 240-777-7931. If you need services to participate in this meeting or in any Council activity, please call the Council as far in advance as possible at 240-777-7900 or send an email to County.Council@montgomerycountymd.gov.

The meeting will be taped for later broadcast on County Cable Montgomery (CCM—cable Channel 6 on Comcast and RCN, Channel 30 on Verizon).

Montgomery Council seeks applicants for Montgomery County Planning Board

The Montgomery County Council is seeking applicants to fill a vacancy on the Montgomery County Planning Board. The first term of Gerald Cichy (Republican) will expire on June 14, 2020.

Applications must be received no later than 5:00m on Wednesday, March 18.

Members serve four-year terms and are limited to two full terms. No more than three members of the Planning Board may be from the same political party, and each member must be a resident and registered voter of Montgomery County when appointed. This position must be filled by a Republican, a voter who is unaffiliated with a party, or a voter who is a member of another party officially recognized by the Board of Elections. This position cannot be filled by a Democrat.

In addition to Mr. Cichy (Rep), current board members are Chair Casey Anderson (Dem), Vice Chair Natali Fani-Gonzalez (Dem), Tina Patterson (Unaffiliated) and Partap Verma (Dem). Annual compensation for Board members is currently \$30,000, and the chair currently earns \$209,754.

The Planning Board serves as the Council's principal adviser on land use planning and community planning. Planning Board members also serve as commissioners of the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

The Planning Board's responsibilities with regard to planning include preparation and amendment of the County General Plan; preparation and amendment of master plans and functional plans; formulation of subdivision regulations; preparation of or recommendations on text amendments to the County Zoning Code; implementation of the subdivision process by reviewing and approving all preliminary plans, site plans and other plans for development; offering or providing advice on the planning implications of capital facilities and programs of the County government, Montgomery College, Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission and Montgomery County Public Schools; commenting, under its mandatory referral authority, on plans for public facilities of local, state and federal agencies; and approving of the work program and the annual operating budget for the Planning Department and the Commission's bi-county offices.

The Planning Board sits as the Park Commission and approves the annual Parks Department operating budget and Capital Improvements Program (CIP); land acquisition contracts and major development contracts for parks; development plans for individual park facilities; policies for park operations; and park user fees.

The Planning Board meets all day every Thursday, including many Thursday evenings, and will schedule other meetings, as needed. The entire Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission meets the third Wednesday of every month. On average, a Planning Board member may spend two full days a week in scheduled and informal meetings. Additionally, substantial time is required for preparatory work and other activities related to Planning Board responsibilities.

Click here for the press release with details on the application process and financial disclosures.

Council enacts bill to require air conditioning for all rental units in Montgomery County

This week, the Montgomery County Council unanimously enacted Bill 24-19, Landlord – Tenant Relations – Obligations of Landlord – Air Conditioning, that would improve living conditions for renters across Montgomery County. The bill requires landlords to provide and maintain air conditioning service for rental housing in the County.

Many residents who rent older and more affordable housing units do not have access to consistent air conditioning. This bill requires that individual air conditioning units, or a central air conditioning system, be maintained in good working condition to provide an inside temperature of 80 degrees or less from June 1 through Sept. 30 each year. Prior to Bill 24-19, County law required only that each rental unit be able to maintain a minimum temperature of 68 degrees but didn't mandate a maximum temperature.

If a landlord does not comply with the new law, tenants may file a complaint with the Department of Housing and Community Affairs and the landlord may face a fine of \$500. Read more here.

Census Still Seeks Employees for Montgomery County!



Interested candidates can apply online at www.2020census.gov/jobs.

Census 2020 (\$29.50/hour) JOBS pay rate!

Get the facts about the Census here!

Montgomery County Public Libraries Offer Census Jobs Information Sessions Tuesday, March 03: 12:30pm - 3:00pm and Thursday, March 05: 12:30pm - 3:00pm Aspen Hill Library 4407 Aspen Hill Road, Rockville

There are opportunities for everyone whether you're seeking full-time work or just looking to earn extra money on the side. A Census Bureau recruiter will be on hand to assist with filling out Census 2020 online job applications. To apply online, go to 2020census.gov/jobs

For more News from the Office of the County Executive, visit: http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/news

For other news and meeting agendas, visit:

County Council https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/council

Planning Board http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/department/news_releases

Also check out the latest from:

Department of Public Libraries http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library

Department of Recreation http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rec

Department of Transportation http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dot/index.html

Department of Environmental Protection http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dep

Department of Permitting Services https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/dps

Montgomery County Volunteer Center http://www.montgomeryserves.org

Office of Community Partnerships https://montgomerycountymd.gov/partnerships

Commission for Women https://montgomerycountymd.gov/cfw

Parks Department http://www.montgomeryparks.org/ Planning Department http://montgomeryplanning.org/

Department of Health and Human Services www.montgomerycountymd.gov/hhs

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